

7-13-1928

## The Mystic, July 13, 1928

Moorhead State Teachers College

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PROGRESS EVIDENT  
McCONNELL SAYSTEACHERS COLLEGE BOARD AND  
SENATOR G. D. McCUBREY  
VISIT AT M. S. T. C.

M. S. T. C. had as its guests at chapel assembly Tuesday, July 10, Senator G. D. McCubrey of this district, and the following members of the Teachers College Board: Alvah Eastman, St. Cloud; R. R. Shumacker, Bemidji; I. N. Tompkins, Mankato, and Dr. O. J. Hagen, Moorhead. Mr. J. M. McConnell, secretary of the Teachers College Board, and state commissioner of education, was the speaker of the day.

## Keep Up With Industry.

In his talk Commissioner McConnell pointed out the three outstanding problems of public education today. First, there is the material side, represented by support, which is one of the solutions to be worked out by the Board. In relation to this is that of keeping up to, if not in advance of, the industrial era. Since public education is the largest single social investment of this country, this is an important factor to be considered.

## Curriculum Problems.

The second problem of education is that of adjusting the curriculum to the needs of today. In writing and revising the state curriculum the various committees have attempted to retain that which has permanent value in education, to acquire that which has value under present conditions, and to present that material in such a manner that we may meet the need of the coming generation.

## Training to Be Thorough.

And third, we must realize the growing demand for better trained teachers. Commissioner McConnell says that the most distinctive educational institution of this country is the teachers college, which is showing marked progress in its summer sessions.

Whereas education began training for leaders, it now includes followers as well.

"If progress is to continue in this country the public school teacher must progress," was the thought Mr. McConnell left with the audience in closing.

EXTENSION PROGRAM FOR  
NEXT YEAR ANNOUNCED

According to Prof. S. G. Bridges, chairman of the Extension Committee, the program of extension courses for next year has been tentatively arranged in accordance with the following schedule:

During the fall quarter Development of the American School will be offered on the campus, Social Psychology at Detroit Lakes, Child Psychology at Breckenridge, and some history course at Fergus Falls.

During the winter quarter English Literature will be offered on the campus, Foreign Relations at Detroit Lakes, some history course at Breckenridge, Psychology II and some other course in education at Fergus Falls, and Child Psychology in Fargo.

For the spring term Educational Psychology will be offered on the campus, Child Psychology at Detroit Lakes, English Literature at Breckenridge, Sociology and some course in English at Fergus Falls.

A number of juniors and seniors have indicated a desire for a course in beginning French to extend through next year. Such a course can be offered if a sufficient number of students enroll. Mr. Bridges, chairman of the committee, states that he will be glad to meet any student who would like to have this course in French.

Dr. Archer and family made an automobile tour of parts of northern Minnesota and Wisconsin from June 29 to July 2. They returned by way of Minneapolis where they attended meetings of the National Education Association July 3 and 4. The Hibbing schools, some of the largest iron mines, parks and zoos, and lumber mills were visited. They also saw President Coolidge's summer home in Wisconsin.

Merle Sherman, class of 1927, stopped off to visit friends on the campus. She was on her way to Walla Walla, Wash., where she will spend a good part of the summer. Miss Sherman teaches at White

BAND MEMBERS WILL BE  
MEASURED FOR UNIFORMS

Mr. Christensen wishes to announce that any students who are interested in band work and are intending to be back in the fall should come in to the Education office to be measured for uniforms. A new design, "strictly collegiate" and said by those who have seen it to be very attractive, has been chosen by the uniform committee of the band, composed of Ver-mund Anderson, Helen Kiland, Miss McKellar, Dr. C. P. Archer, and Mr. Christensen. The band promises to be a feature of games and meetings next year.

## FRANCES MACLEAN HERE

Miss Frances MacLean, daughter of President and Mrs. MacLean, has been visiting her parents during the past few weeks.

PROGRESS EXHIBIT  
RURAL FEATURERURAL TRAINING SCHOOL WORK  
ALSO SHOWN AT CLAY  
COUNTY FAIR

Exhibits of work done in the rural affiliated schools of the College have been on view in rooms 23-24-25 of the main building since Wednesday. The purpose of this exhibit is to show individual and group progress in the various phases of work done during the past school year. It includes work in silent reading, spelling, language, and arithmetic, as well as color charts, commercial seat work, and the like.

## Shows Growth.

Most of the material in this exhibit was displayed in a booth at the Clay County Fair at Barnesville July 2, 3, and 4. None of the items was entered for prizes, since the object of the exhibit was to show the growth in the skills and abilities which these activities plan to develop.

Students and others interested may examine the exhibit at any time.

TURNER CONCERT  
WELL RECEIVED

(By Elnora Arneson)

Miss Leola Turner, soprano of the Chicago Civic Opera, thrilled her audience gathered for the program on the evening of July 6 in Weld Hall Auditorium. A concert, well selected, beautifully rendered, and finely interpreted, was greatly enjoyed and will long be remembered by her eager audience.

The ensemble numbers included compositions in Italian, which, though the language was foreign to the listeners, was understood in its theme through the artist's wonderful interpretation. When she sang Italian, the listener could see that she thought Italian and gave it a language of emotional understanding.

With her encores, Miss Turner was more than generous and graciously added to her well-filled program the following numbers:

An Old Favorite.....Phillips  
Irmelin.....Erich Wolff  
Meet Me in the Willow Glen.....Lee  
Lindy Lou.....Strickland  
Lo, Here the Gentle Lark.....Bishop  
Little Star.....LaForge  
Songs My Mother Taught Me.....Dvorak  
Mrs. Frank Temple of Fargo played the accompaniment.

Susie Meets Bear, Misses Dinner, Is  
Rescued in Time to See Old FaithfulOld Faithful Camp,  
July 27, 1927.

Dear Dad:

I must tell you why I am having no dinner, and furthermore why I am locked in my cabin with all the windows closed. I felt when we were given cabin number thirteen, that something would happen—well—it did! Having forgotten my meal ticket, I came back for it, and was starting back to the camp when, suddenly a big black bear loped out from behind a cabin. Back to the cabin I ran, bolted the door, and closed the windows. Mr. Bear lumbered past and stretched out in front of the cabin next door. There he is at the present minute. He seems to be waiting for his dinner and, incidentally, so is Susie!

Since I seem to have lots of space

MISS SWENSON TO  
TALK AT CHAPELCOUNTY GRADUATION POST-  
PONED A WEEK; TANG TO  
PRESENT DIPLOMAS

The annual Clay County Rural School Graduation which had been planned for today has been postponed until Friday, July 20, and will be held in the Auditorium during the assembly period.

Miss Anna Swenson, former director of rural education at the College, and now connected with the State Department of Education as inspector of rural schools, will give the address. She has had charge of the supervisory activities of the rural schools, including the holding of institutes for the teachers of those schools. During the last two years, she has also had charge of certification for rural teachers.

## 100 to Get Diplomas.

Just recently Miss Swenson was appointed head of the high school teacher training departments of the state.

At the graduation exercises about one hundred pupils from the rural schools of the county will receive diplomas, which will be presented by S. O. Tang, county superintendent of schools, Clay county.

The postponement was necessary because the State Department had not completed grading of examination papers.

TEAMS PRACTICE  
FOR TOURNAMENT

Keen competition and an undercurrent of excitement are prevailing on the campus since the various teams, recruited at the first meeting of the Recreation Hour, have begun practice in tennis, archery, quoits, and baseball, which are to be featured on Tournament Evening, July 18. Determination to win glory, honor, and the trophies, each for their own team, has spurred many loyal and enthusiastic members to practice and train for the fateful event.

Under the following colors and leaders the "hostess" counties together with their followers will compete for campus distinction this summer:

Becker County—Red:  
President.....V. Pearce  
Secretary.....M. Tangen  
Clay-Cass—Blue:  
President.....H. Iverson  
Secretary.....A. Melland  
Ottertail—Green:  
President.....M. Karlgard  
Secretary.....C. Mathiesen  
Wilkon—Orange:  
President.....F. Dinger  
Secretary.....C. Bock

During the past week the attention of the casual observer of the bulletin board was arrested by the Recreation Hour poster which decorated the main corridor. The occasion was the meeting held in the Junior High Assembly on July 11, at which time the "Jolly Country School" gave the following program:

Opening Exercise.....Mother Goose Rhymes  
Moving Picture Show.....Primary Grades  
Relief Drill.....Miss Frick  
Talk—"Our Affiliated Schools".....Mr. Sande  
Farewell Songs.....Audience  
After the program the various groups held business meetings.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, July 18:

Rural Education Day.

6:50 P. M.—Recreational Hour.

Thursday, July 19:

3:15 P. M.—Automobile trip.

3:15 P. M.—Trip to Fairmont Creamery.

8:30 P. M.—Trip to bakery.

Friday, July 20:

11:00 A. M.—County Rural School Graduation.

Tuesday, July 24:

3:15 P. M.—Trip to Fairmont Creamery.

3:15 P. M.—Automobile trip.

8:30 P. M.—Trip to bakery.

Wednesday, July 25:

6:50 P. M.—Recreational Hour.

Friday, July 27:

Term closes.

1:00 P. M.—Graduation exercises.

ROSS, KAPLAN IN  
RECITAL TONIGHTPIANIST AND VIOLINIST HERE  
FOR LAST NUMBER OF SUM-  
MER LYCEUM

Basya Kaplan, pianist, and Gilbert Ross, American violinist, will appear in joint recital for the final number of the M. S. T. C. Summer Lyceum. These artists come well recommended, and it is the opinion of those in charge of the lyceum course that music lovers of this community have a real treat in store.

In commenting on a concert in Chicago by Miss Kaplan, the Chicago Daily News says, "Pretty, intelligent, musically talented and supported by a fleet and sure technic, Miss Kaplan is endowed with the qualities which make a successful concert pianist. Her interpretations and renditions justified the opinion that she is one of the most interesting and capable of the younger virtuosos. She displayed a variety of tone and plenty of power, as well as a smooth and clear technic."

Newspaper comments on Mr. Ross indicate that he is an artist of international reputation. The Berliner Tageblatt says, "Again the lion's share of success went to Gilbert Ross, violinist from New York, who was among the artists. His powerful tone delivered with especial beauty on the lower strings, and his energetic bowing carried the day in pieces of Chopin and Tschaikowsky, while in others by Paganini, Kreisler, and Sarasate, his dazzling technique shone to the best advantage."

The Minneapolis Daily Star has this to say, "The son of one of the world's greatest sociologists was the soloist of the day. Like father, like son, and so I was not surprised to find the young Ross a very satisfying musician. He has feeling and grace and rhythm. He has understanding."

JR. RED CROSS IS  
CHAPEL SUBJECT

"The Junior Red Cross is one of the most important factors in promoting international peace," said Mr. Theodore Shank, regional director of the organization, during chapel assembly Monday, July 9.

According to Mr. Shank many of the larger school systems have instituted Junior Red Cross work, not as an extra-curricular activity, but as part of the regular school course. So interesting has this work become that many leading colleges are giving courses for the proper training of people interested in the movement.

The organization is worldwide in scope, having twelve million members who are recruited from all parts of the world. Over half of this number are in the U. S.

## Good Will Fostered.

A feeling of international good will is being fostered between the different countries by the exchange of correspondence in the form of letters, posters, and illustrated booklets. This correspondence shows the various activities and interesting places connected with their respective localities.

In order to better understand the work of the Junior Red Cross an exhibit of various kinds of booklets, folders, posters, and other types of

ATLANTA WILL BE  
N.E.A. HOST IN '29'28 SPEAKERS INCLUDE MARSH,  
BOSTON, YEN OF CHINA,  
LEE OF HAWAII

"Training for Citizenship"—the general theme of the N. E. A. held at Minneapolis last week, July 1 to 6, was the topic on which all the addresses were centered.

Miss Cornelia Adair, the 1928 president of the Association, said in her opening address that it was time to use every effort within our power to blot out the stigma of 50,000 illiterates in the U. S. Miss Adair stated that the main object of the N. E. A. convention was to serve as an inspiration and stimulus toward the end that our schools might produce the highest type of citizens, not only in a local sense, but to serve also in national and international affairs.

## Marsh Glorifies Peace.

It would be impossible to give a complete resume of the entire convention, but a remark or two made by a few of the distinguished speakers may be stated.

President Daniel L. Marsh of Boston University said that world peace would be gained when pupils were taught to glorify peace instead of war.

## Red Cross Explained.

H. B. Wilson, director of the American Junior Red Cross, stated that international citizenship and the establishing of friendly foreign relationships is the work of the Junior Red Cross.

Dr. John J. Lofthus, of New York, spoke of the training in the use of spare time as being of vital interest today.

## Chinese Are Progressing.

James C. Yen, Director General, National Association for Mass Education in China, told of a plan for a better understanding between the United States and China. He said that the Chinese children knew more about Washington and Lincoln than the American children knew about Buddha or Confucius. Mr. Yen has charge of the movement to eliminate illiteracy in China, and has done a great deal to help condense 40,000 characters in his language to 13,000 foundation characters that could be used to teach the Chinese to read.

## Cost of Education Low.

According to Frank D. Boynton, President of Department of Superintendence, the cost of education, in spite of the fact that school costs have risen sharply within the last 15 years, is only 1½ cents of every dollar, while crime, he pointed out, costs 8 cents, and 22 cents are used for luxuries.

Mrs. Hugh Bradford of Sacramento, Calif., said in her address that the P. T. A. Congress is an aid to good citizenship because parents and teachers, by co-operation, may set the standards for citizenship, and by furnishing examples and sympathy, be worthy types to follow.

John Lee of Hawaii stated that the American interpretation of the Hula dance is a gross misinterpretation, and did not show the true spirit of this dance, which often represents an attitude of prayer.

## Lamkin New President.

At the last session of the convention, Miss Adair turned over the gavel to the newly elected president, Uel W. Lamkin, president of the Northwest Missouri State Teachers College, Maryville, Mo., who announced as his program for the N. E. A. an equal educational opportunity for every boy and girl in America. Next year Atlanta, Ga., will be host to the N. E. A.

Most of the faculty members and several of the student body attended the convention.

TEMPLE, NESHEIM  
PROVIDE PROGRAM

Mrs. Frank I. Temple of Fargo and Miss Eleanor Nesheim of Moorhead gave a two-piano concert on Friday, July 6, at chapel assembly. The program, unlike Gaul, was divided not into three, but into two parts, one of which was written by a French composer, Chaminade, and the second by a Russian composer, Cui.

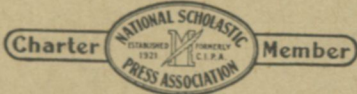
Mrs. Temple and Miss Nesheim both have given programs of music several times at the College this year, as well as at various other places in the two cities.

Mrs. Temple will also be reme



THE MiSTiC

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A PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENT

One of the fundamental principles underlying efficient supervision, according to Dr. Burton, is the improvement of teachers in service. Educators in the universities and teachers colleges everywhere feel responsible for this improvement; consequently, their efforts are directed toward ways and means of meeting this generally felt need.

The Moorhead State Teachers College is not to be surpassed in this forward looking movement. The members of the faculty have generously responded to the demands made upon them by the supervisors and teachers of Fargo and Moorhead. Barnesville, Detroit Lakes, and other nearby towns have had their problems met in a similar manner. Courses in History, Education and Literature have been offered at times decided upon by the group as being most convenient for all concerned. Saturday mornings, late afternoons on certain days of the week and evenings are the hours that have been agreed upon and used satisfactorily in the past.

Often two or more courses are offered simultaneously, which affords each teacher an opportunity of choosing that which is best adapted to her needs. Some are interested from the standpoint of their immediate problems, while others are looking forward toward the completion of a definite course.

Thus the teachers in service in Fargo, Moorhead, and the other prescribed places are highly privileged, but what about the ambitious worker in the less fortunate towns, villages, and outlying districts? How may she be reached and assisted in order that her progress be assured?

Would it not be possible to arrange correspondence courses?  
—N. M.

RURAL EDUCATION

That the problem of rural education must receive nationwide attention was forcibly brought out at the National Education Association in an address given by Miss Florence Hale, state supervisor of rural schools, Augusta, Maine.

Miss Hale predicted that the "little red schoolhouse" and the scattered one or two room settlements will become a thing of the past as soon as the farmers receive the legislative relief to which they are entitled.

This, then, would indicate that the farmers have not been justly treated and that therefore the rural conditions are not what they should be. It may almost be said that the rural schools have been made to suffer from an inferiority complex which has been superimposed because of the lack of co-operation and consideration from other sources.

Within recent years, there seems, however, that more and more time and energy has been spent in the interest and betterment of rural conditions because there has been an awakening to the vast differences that have existed between the rural and the urban schools.

If this vast gap or difference is to be bridged so that the rural teacher need not be ashamed of his profession, there must be secured the needed legislative relief and the service of intelligent leaders who are vitally interested in the rural schools.  
—A. L. C.

THE POLITICAL RAMBLER

"Our Own Will Rogers"

When a man is asked to give a speech, there are always two questions that should confront him: the first, naturally, is what shall he talk about, and the second, what to say about the subject. A good many are so gifted that very little time is wasted on the first question, and the second is either overlooked or else on account of time shortage, they never get that far.

That politics would be a splendid subject for a discourse can never be questioned just prior to a general election. Every person, lay or learned, should be so full of the subject, so to speak, that he could air his own as well as his neighbor's views at any time or place.

It was rather unusual to have the conventions of both the leading political parties west of the Mississippi this year. Maybe the East is commencing to look West?

The Republican convention at Kansas City turned out very dry, while the Democratic convention at Houston became so dripping wet that those of the Southwest not provided with umbrellas are contemplating the formation of a third party. That idea is a splendid one, since it will give more people a chance to run for office and also increase the list of defeated

To be a political party the organization must have a platform on which to stand. That being the case both of our leading parties formulated such a contraption in which at least some of the planks are free from knot-holes. If you are interested in knowing the chief points of similarity or difference in the two respective platforms you should wait until some of the candidates or political orators come to display their skill. Then you may be able to get it.

Farm relief is a great issue in this campaign, is it not? Surely it is. The only difficulty is that politicians cannot just agree on which farmers to relieve nor what to relieve them of.

You should like to know who will be our next president? The way the clouds are drifting in the political horizon at the present, it seems quite clear that if Smith is not elected Hoover will, though you never can tell.

I may drop in again to talk over the political situation.

POWERS FAMILY IMPROVED

Word has been received by President MacLean that the members of the Powers family who were injured in the accident a few weeks ago are recovering very nicely. All are expected to recover fully, although Dorothy, the most seriously injured of the

Interviewer Finds Visiting Artist Prefers College Audiences to Others

Leola Turner, visiting artist of July 6, imparted to the interviewer between intervals of handshaking with divers individuals from the audience a number of interesting things.

"Oh—so this is Miss——and she wishes to interview me? Well, well. What is it you want to know?"

"Uh—well, you see—anyway—it's this way—I, we thought——"

"Yes, indeed."

"Oh—a—where were you born?"

"In Texas, but my home is in California."

Miss Tainter would have become pale with horror if she could have heard her E-plus student conducting the rest of the conversation, so with the interests of her summer school students at heart the dialogue shall be omitted.

At the age of six, Miss Turner began the study of music under the supervision of her mother, who was a singer and pianist. In those early years she sang at church socials and in choirs. Smiling reminiscently she

remarked, "I made my debut in 'Silent Night, Holy Night' on a Christmas Eve."

These last years Miss Turner has been studying under Thomas MacBirney of Chicago.

When asked if she thought the career of the opera required more time and effort than training for other professions she nodded an emphatic "yes". To this she added the statement, "People do not realize the many years a singer must study before she may make her debut. The foreign languages so necessary to a singer must also be learned perfectly."

Miss Turner found college audiences "much more appreciative than the general audience." (She is very diplomatic.)

In her leisure hours Miss Turner reads and walks a great deal. During her vacations she turns to mountain climbing, for this aids her immensely in developing breath control.

She is to make her official appearance to the music world in her debut with the Chicago Civic Opera soon.

JUNIORS AND SENIORS HAVE PICNIC IN GYM

The Junior-Senior picnic scheduled to be held in the Moorhead park last Tuesday afternoon was adjourned to the gymnasium on account of the heavy rain after 4:30. Sixteen members of the two classes were present.

As an opening number on the entertainment program there was a prolonged search for a mysterious couple. The game was to inquire of those who seemed to be in any way paired until someone should ask the question, "Are you the mysterious couple?" of the two people who had been designated by the chairman as the "mysterious couple."

Following this "mixer" there was a ball game between the squirrels and the nuts. The nuts were selected on the basis of intelligence scores and designated by a string of peanuts around their necks. The nuts won the game by a substantial margin.

After lunch the group was divided into sections on the basis of nationality, Norwegians in one section and Swedes in the other, for another ball game. The Norwegians were defeated by a small margin.

OUR OWN NEWS REEL

A New York Times headline glares forth with a headline, "Department of Commerce is awaiting further information on mystery station P.D.Q. in Crooksville, Ohio, which is broadcasting gossip without a license!" Why pick on radio stations? . . . This verbatim from a scareline banner, "Say Girl's Spirit Wore Suspenders." Well, what about it—We've known the real girl to wear them . . . "Italian Police Fear Youth's Revolt." Certainly must have a conscientious force. We leave it to the parents over here.

DRIBBLIN'S

I thought we'd have a chapel diet on N.E.A. for quite a while, but it seems not. It is very sad.

Perhaps you are unaware that the faculty have lunch over in Weld Hall. The fact is that they are extremely exclusive and have a dining room to themselves. Well, we strikers at this seat of learning have a dining room (ahem—dining room). I take my lessons over to study while I eat my spaghetti, and just as often I am unable to concentrate because of the great noise the faculty insist on making. They become very hilarious and their voices sometimes carry into our room, and this is what they say: "Now, you tell one"—"And she says to me, and I replies to her"—"I sure had one swell time."

It is quite heart-rending to think that our lovely faculty should stoop to such commonplaces. Perhaps if I spoke to the President . . .

And while I'm on the subject of the faculty—I hear that there are those among this group who tried to persuade the Johnny J. Jones carnival to stay over another week and let the faculty run it. With the proceeds they planned to build a new stadium. Johnny J. must have refused, for I still see the wooden bleachers out in back. Cruel man!

Marvin Syverson, B.E. '28, has been visiting the college this past week. He reports that he will start for Hawaii about the second week in August. Mr. Syverson will teach industrial arts at Wailuku, on the Island Maui, which is about 80 miles from Honolulu.

SUSIE MEETS BEAR

(Continued from Page One)

which used to be called "Hell's Half Acre"—rather a fitting name.

And now we are at Old Faithful in the Upper Geyser Basin, where four of the most beautiful geysers, Riverside, Grotto, Daisy, and Old Faithful played for us this morning.

Old Faithful—how appropriately it is named! Its cone stands out in full view of both camp and hotel where about once an hour summer and winter it faithfully acts. It begins with a few spurts. A guide pushes the crowd back. Suddenly a column of water shoots up over a hundred feet, keeps this height for several minutes and then gradually falls. A satisfied murmur goes around the crowd. Cameras are closed. The crowd pushes near to the crater. Once more Old Faithful has erupted.

Each day of this adventure proves more exciting than the last. Tomorrow we go over the Continental Divide to the Canyon, where we are promised more thrills.

Since the crowd is coming back, I must close, because I want to see Bess meet an honest-to-goodness Bear.  
Your loving Susie.

COLLEGE TRAINING SCHOOL ACTIVITIES PRIMARY

The Kindergarten aquarium consisting of Chinese turtles, goldfish, snails, and clams has been borrowed for the summer by the Primary department and is proving a center for some of the nature and language activities.

Recent rains have done wonders for the first grade vegetable and over garden.

INTERMEDIATE

This department reports a full attendance of 49 members since the vacation.

The children gave a demonstration last Friday to their teachers of the work accomplished in Physical Education.

Maurice Piersal, of Dilworth, enrolled in the fifth grade on July 9th.

The children are busy catching different species of insects to make a collection for the Intermediate department.

J. H. S.

The summer program in the Junior High School is especially a remedial and drill type. The children carry from two to four subjects and those taking two subjects spend two hours of work in each. Difficulties of the children are analyzed and individual remedial work follows.

The Social Sciences this summer aim to provide for group activity.

A 60 pupil enrollment is reported by the Junior High School.

RURAL DEMONSTRATION

The Rural Demonstration School is printing its second edition of its newspaper, "The Summere School Forum."

The third grade wrote a Fourth of July play which it presented to Miss Bieri's class.

June 28, all the grades dressed up in holiday togs and paraded to Miss Owen's and Mr. MacLean's offices, and to Miss Bieri's Methods class.

The Demonstration School had an extra two days' vacation last week on account of the bad roads.

"Move along, kid. This is for the educators!" was the response which a Minneapolis policeman gave Miss Frick when she asked him how long she might leave her car parked out in front of the auditorium, where the

THE BOOK SHELF

AMERICA COMES OF AGE

(By André Siegfried)

(Translated from the French by H. H. Hemming and Doris Hemming.)

The curtains are pulled apart and out upon the stage steps a youth full of energy and enthusiasm. With an outward fling of his arms and a stretch of his youthful muscles, he is about to set forth on his life's journey. He has just reached maturity. With a feeling of courage and confidence, he is satisfied that the world is his. With his buoyant spirits and hopeful nature he is certain that there are no perplexities nor problems too great for him to solve. There is nothing to hinder him from gaining wealth, success and a position of prominence. He feels secure, he has a good heritage and with his inherent abilities he knows that nothing can thwart his ambitions.

As the youth turns to leave the stage, a man appears from the opposite direction. He taps lightly and out upon the floor came some of the Problems the youth will encounter as he journeys on. There is Prohibition in softer colors so as not to be too noticeable; Race Consciousness, small, unattractive but nevertheless its presence is felt; Immigration in whose path are serious and far-reaching consequences. At this point the youth turns to flee from the intruder but is held against his wishes by the picture flashed before his eyes. He sees the Melting Pot, the races passing by in rapid succession. He notices how the fusion which takes place varies with the different races. Below the picture he reads these words, "In actual practice their assimilation is a process of extreme complexity which extends over several generations and involves a whole series of stages." The youth groans, because he believed this problem had been solved.

Before further thought is possible, another picture is shown to him. He reads, "America's Economic Independence," then breathes easily. He sees with pride the strength and power here, but suddenly realizes the limitations. That the boys of his age should be so taken up with machines of all kinds; that everything is made in mass production! With this the youth sees a picture of everything standardized, articles, foodstuffs, individuals and homes. He laughs merrily but suddenly grows serious when the meaning of it strikes him.

A last picture is shown. The Republicans, Democrats and Progressives march by, carrying the planks for their platforms. He thinks this is no problem to be solved but yet he contemplates these words earnestly, "The real strength of the country does not lie in the political machine but in the great interests, the convictions and the passions that make use of that machine. Were it not that the public allows itself to be led away by highly organized propaganda, it would indeed be a perfect type of democracy." With this the man disappears. Somehow the youth feels older. With this the man disappears. Somehow the youth feels older. With a feeling of responsibility, he goes forth to do his utmost to solve those problems which so forcibly have been brought to his attention. Thus the youth had reviewed for him the complexities of our civilization as shown in the book "America Comes of Age." The author, André Siegfried, has traveled in America and has spent much time in studying the situation here and the influences at work. He has been looking on, but it seems that he has missed nothing. By deep study, actual contacts and investigations he has discovered the problems. Then with an almost uncanny power which leaves one both amused and resentful, he has taken each of these problems from its niche and aired it in the light of present day thought. That he knows the situations is evident. Certainly he has probed below the surface with the result that he has given a splendid and convincing discussion of the ethnic, economic, and political situation of America.  
—N. K.

PERSONALS

Miss Lommen has returned from Havre, Mont., where she again was called by the serious illness of her sister.

Huldah Gigstad, Pearl Bjork, Delia Widing, and Milla Corneliussen, alumni, are attending Minnesota University this summer.

You can't keep a good man down; therefore Mr. Hamrin is back at work after a week's illness with the flu.

Miss Dahl, who was confined to her bed for a week with the flu, is